



# National Transportation Safety Board

## An Inside Peek at the NTSB

Robert Sumwalt



Our mission:  
Prevent Accidents  
Reduce Injuries  
Save Lives





# Lockhart, TX

July 2016



# The Board



Bella Dinh-Zarr



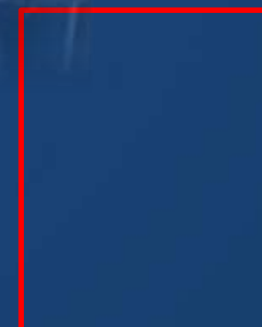
Chris Hart



Robert Sumwalt



Earl Weener







**Breaking News: A plane has crashed.**





# The Notification





Anatomy of an accident investigation

# NOTIFICATION + 2 HOURS

# The Launch



# Enroute





# Arrival on Scene



# Boots on the Ground

Go-teams have specialists in:

- Powerplants
- Structures
- Systems
- Operations
- Human performance
- Survival factors
- Airworthiness
- ATC
- Transportation Disaster Assistance
- Meteorology
- Recorders







# The Hunt for ...



# The “Black Boxes”











# The Party Process

- The NTSB designates parties to the investigation to those organizations that can provide technical expertise.
- Typically parties may include:
  - FAA (by law)
  - Operator
  - Airframe and engine manufacturers
  - Major component manufacturers
  - Pilot, ATC, maintenance, and flight attendant union representatives
  - Airport authorities
  - First responders

# Value of the Party System



- Parties provide technical expertise
- Parties provide checks and balances to the process of accident investigation
- Transparency
- Immediate corrective actions





## Nightly Progress Meetings



Anatomy of an accident investigation

**MONTH 3 - 4**

# Investigative Hearing





Anatomy of an accident investigation

**MONTH 12**

# Board Meeting



